

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AF-10 ARA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 HEW-08 SCI-06 AID-20 /181 R

DRAFTED BY IO/ UNP: JWKIMBALL: ERM

4/11/73 EXT. 20512

APPROVED BY IO - MARTIN F. HERZ

IO/ HDC - MR. NOZIGLIA

IO/ UNP - MR. STULL

EA/ K - MR. RANARD

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R 112340 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 067908

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: WHO, UN, KN

SUBJECT: 26 TH WHA: NORTH KOREAN APPLICATION FOR WHA
OBSERVER STATUS

REF: (A) GENEVA 1639, (B) USUN 1160, (C) STATE 65086

1. KOREAN EMBASSY APRIL 11 CONVEYED ROKG REQUEST FOR US
APPROACH TO WHO SECRETARY GENERAL CANDAU TO DISSUADE HIM
FROM INVITING NORTH KOREA AS OBSERVER AT 26 TH WHA. ROK
HAS MADE SIMILAR REQUEST TO UK AND IS CONFIDENT UK WILL
AGREE TO ACT.

2. REQUEST AMB. RIMSTEAD DISCUSS ISSUE WITH CANDAU AFTER
COORDINATING WITH ROK AND UK COLLEAGUES. YOU SHOULD POINT
OUT, PER REFTTEL B THAT:

A. ONLY STATES MAY BE GRANTED OBSERVER STATUS TO WHA PER
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RULE 3 OF WHA RULES OF PROCEDURE. CANDAU APPEARED TO RECOGNIZE THIS POINT VIS- A- VIS GDR IN 1970 AND 1971. (SEE GENEVA 1185 DATED MARCH 17, 1972).

B. TO GRANT OBSERVER STATUS AT THIS TIME TO DPRK WOULD IMPLY TREATING NORTH KOREA AS STATE, A POLITICAL DECISION NOT WITHIN SEC GEN COMPETENCE. THIS REGARD, UNGA HAS RECOGNIZED ROK AS ONLY LAWFUL GOVERNMENT IN KOREA IN GA RES 195 III, RECONFIRMED MANY TIMES.

C. NUMBER OF STATES WHICH HAVE RECOGNIZED DPRK IS MINORITY OF WHO MEMBERS WHILE LARGE MAJORITY CONTINUES DENY DPRK RECOGNITION. ANY EVENT, RECOGNITION IS NOT RELEVANT TO OBSERVER QUESTION SO LONG AS UNGA POSITION REMAINS UNCHANGED.

D. SEATING OF NORTH KOREA OBSERVERS AT WHA IS INTEGRALLY RELATED TO QUESTION OF MEMBERSHIP AND IN ANY CASE SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO PREJUDICE SUBSEQUENT DECISION OF WHA MEMBERSHIP ON NORTH KOREAN APPLICATION.

3. IF PRESSED BY CANDAU ON " HUMANITARIAN" NATURE OF WHO, YOU MAY RESPOND ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: US RECOGNIZES HUMANITARIAN PURPOSES OF WHO AND SUPPORTS WIDEST REASON- ABLE ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WITH ITS ACTIVITIES. HOWEVER, POLITICAL HISTORY OF KOREAN QUESTION WITHIN UN, POLITICAL SITUATION AS BETWEEN NORTH KOREA AND ROK, AND POLITICAL MOTIVATION OF NORTH KOREAN APPLICATION, REQUIRE BASICALLY POLITICAL JUDGMENT AND DECISION ON OBSERVER ISSUE. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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